



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Raised Bill No. 1130

LCO No. 4311

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING TRUANCY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 10-198a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2003*):

4 (c) If the parent or other person having control of a child who is a
5 truant fails to attend the meeting held pursuant to subdivision (1) of
6 subsection (b) of this section or if such parent or other person
7 otherwise fails to cooperate with the school in attempting to solve the
8 truancy problem, such policies and procedures shall require the
9 superintendent of schools to (1) file for each such truant enrolled in the
10 schools under his jurisdiction a written complaint with the Superior
11 Court pursuant to section 46b-149 alleging the belief that the acts or
12 omissions of the child are such that his family is a family with service
13 needs not later than ten days after such acts or omissions, and (2) send
14 a copy of such filed complaint to the State Board of Education.

15 Sec. 2. Subsection (h) of section 46b-149 of the general statutes is
16 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*

17 1, 2003):

18 (h) If the court finds, based on clear and convincing evidence, that
 19 the family of a child is a family with service needs, the court may, in
 20 addition to issuing any orders under section 46b-121, (1) refer the child
 21 to the Department of Children and Families for any voluntary services
 22 provided by said department or, if the family is a family with service
 23 needs solely as a result of a finding that a child is a truant or habitual
 24 truant, to the authorities of the local or regional school district or
 25 private school for services provided by such school district or such
 26 school, which services may include summer school, or to community
 27 agencies providing child and family services; (2) commit [that] the
 28 child to the care and custody of the Commissioner of Children and
 29 Families for an indefinite period not to exceed eighteen months; (3)
 30 order the child to remain in his own home or in the custody of a
 31 relative or any other suitable person (A) subject to the supervision of a
 32 probation officer, or (B) in the case of a family which is a family with
 33 service needs solely as a result of a finding that a child is a truant or
 34 habitual truant, subject to the supervision of a probation officer and
 35 the authorities of the local or regional school district or private school;
 36 [or] (4) if the family is a family with service needs as a result of the
 37 child engaging in sexual intercourse with another person and such
 38 other person is thirteen years of age or older and not more than two
 39 years older or younger than such child, (A) refer the child to a youth
 40 service bureau or other appropriate service agency for participation in
 41 a program such as a teen pregnancy program or a sexually transmitted
 42 disease program, and (B) require such child to perform community
 43 service such as service in a hospital, an AIDS prevention program or
 44 an obstetrical and gynecological program; or (5) if the family is a
 45 family with service needs solely as a result of a finding that a child is a
 46 truant or habitual truant, (A) report such finding to the Commissioner
 47 of Motor Vehicles who shall suspend the motor vehicle operator's
 48 license of such truant child or youth, (B) order the parent, or other
 49 person having control of the truant child or youth to perform
 50 community service for a number of hours as determined by the court,

51 or (C) impose a civil penalty on such parent or other person having
52 control of the truant child or youth in a dollar amount as determined
53 by the court. If the court issues any order which regulates future
54 conduct of the child, parent or guardian, the child, parent or guardian,
55 shall receive adequate and fair warning of the consequences of
56 violation of the order at the time it is issued, and such warning shall be
57 provided to the child, parent or guardian, to his attorney and to his
58 legal guardian in writing and shall be reflected in the court record and
59 proceedings.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2003</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To require prompt filing of a complaint regarding truancy and to give the court additional enforcement options when a student is found to be truant.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]